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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 24648

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

BRUNELOT et al.

Serial No. 09/856,684

Group Art Unit: 1754

Filed: May 24, 2001

Examiner: P. Lish

For: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INCINERATION AND VITRIFICATION OF WASTE, IN PARTICULAR RADIOACTIVE WASTE**

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action having a mailing date of January 28, 2004. The three month shortened statutory period to respond is set to expire April 28, 2004. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed within the period for reply set by the Examiner.

Applicants initially note that claims 1-8, 16, and 17 were indicated by the Examiner as allowed, while claim 13 was not rejected over the prior art. This indication of patentable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in this application.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the captioned application as follows.



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WASTE, IN PARTICULAR RADIOACTIVE WASTE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

The Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter; and
- (2) Response and Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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